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**From:** Pat Hunt [WaterSewerSupvr@badriver-nsn.gov]  
**Sent:** 11/21/2013 4:02:09 PM  
**To:** Maraldo, Dean [Maraldo.Dean@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Update  
**Attachments:** Operator #1 Certification.jpg; Operator #2 Certifications.jpg

Dean,

The following is the November 29<sup>th</sup> update regarding our progress with the compliance schedule.

\*We will have completed the negotiations with the contractors regarding the control updates to the Bad River WWTP by the end of this work week November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be presenting this to the Council next Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup> for approval. Following the approval the award will need to be signed by the Chairman. Next will be the formulation of the contract, legal review and then Council approval again. After that the notice to proceed will be signed by the Chairman and we will begin construction. With this being the holiday season I see us starting the controls update project work sometime in January 2014.

\*The problem we are experiencing is our phosphate level in the WWTP lagoon is still too high. We have treated the lagoon with 200 gallons of alum and are at 6.22 after we started at 2.5 before we began the alum treatment. Can't figure it out. Unfortunately we have ran out of weather with the temperatures in the single digits now it's making ice at night. As a result the upgrades to the digester will have to be done after the spring thaw. I will be adding alum to the digester from time to time before discharging to the WWTP lagoon in an effort to help lower the phosphate levels before spring thaw.

\*I will asking the Chairman to request from the USEPA an extension from January 31<sup>st</sup> 2014 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014 to complete the WWTP controls update resulting in total compliance.

\*My two operators have passed all the certification tests they took on November 6<sup>th</sup> 2013. To date we now have the following certifications in house.

Manager – Surface Water grade 1  
Groundwater grade 1  
Distribution grade 1  
Advanced Wastewater test  
Ponds and Lagoons Grade 4

Operator #1 – Groundwater grade T  
Distribution grade T  
Intro to Wastewater test  
Activated Sludge grade T

Operator #3 - NONE

Operator #2 – Intro to Wastewater test  
Activated Sludge grade T  
Phosphorous Removal grade T

Administrative Assistant – Groundwater grade T  
Distribution grade T

This winter I will be sending operator #1 and #2 to more certifications. Operator #1 will be taking certification classes in phosphorous removal and lab and operator #2 will be taking certification classes in lab and ponds and lagoons. Both will be testing out again the first week of May 2014.

Wisconsin DNR certifications work as follows;

Water – Grade 1 is highest after at least one year experience in the related water fields. Grade T will be for at least one year.

Wastewater – Grade 4 is the highest after at least four years experience in the related field after passing the advanced wastewater test. Grades required are determined by plant size (volume treated). The plant size in Bad River will only require and allow a grade 2 which is the highest obtainable with the intro to wastewater test and sub grades. I have attached the recent DNR certifications obtained by operators #1 and #2.

Fortunately IHS has assisted us in paying for these classes and is a welcome relief to my budget. It is also worth mentioning that I have been asked by the Tribe to reduce my budget again (second time) due to the overall Tribal budget deficit. I do not know for sure but it is my fear that I will be forced to lay off one operator (operator #2 based on length of service) which may or may not cause me to lose the weekend coverage at the utility. I really have no other line item that I can take money away from. I will also not be able to send operator #2 to certification classes if in fact I have to lay him off to lower my budget.

Please let me know if you have any questions, thank you for your time and please forward to others involved.

Patrick Hunt – Bad River Utility Manager